

General Boulanger has written a characteristic letter to the electors of the Department of Nord, in which he says that the 15th of April will be the date of her true deliverance. He praises the electors for their perseverance and patriotism, and says that they will find in his profession of faith, although the politicians do not. "What France demands," says he, "and what the electors have affirmed through my name, is the necessity of a constituent Assembly, before which all ambitions will be effaced, and which will give the people the large place they ought to occupy in the Republic. This has always been my aim, but systematically withheld. We will labor to make the Republic respected and indestructible."

NEW YORK, April 17th.
Commodore Gerry predicts a lively yachting season. No yacht has been built to race with the *Volunteer* for the America Cup, but many new yachts have been built, and the changes in the rig of others promise a series of interesting experiments to determine which type of yacht is really the best. The keel and center-board question will be locally tested. The American Yacht Club is probably be called upon to defend its cup in the international steam-yacht race. Sir William, Pierce, head of the firm of John Elder & Co. of the Clyde, is building a steam yacht about the size of the *Atlanta*, and has written an intimation that he would probably send a challenge.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 17th.
The election of General Boulanger is viewed with concern in official circles. It is feared that the internal disorders of France will paralyze her action abroad at a time when international questions will require to be dealt with.

LONDON, April 17th.
John Haring, the banker, is dead.
At the Newmarket Craven meeting to-day the Crawford Plate, three-fourths of a mile, was won by *Dixie*. The Newmarket Biennial Stakes for three-year-olds was won by *Anarchy*.

ODessa, April 17th.
Forty thousand foreign Jews residing in the province of Kherson have been ordered to cross the frontier.

BRUSSELS, April 17th.
The *Independence Belge* reports that the establishment of a Regency for Belgium is imminent.

PARIS, April 17th.
Small crowds collected in Paris to-day last night cheering for General Boulanger. The police dispersed them without any trouble.

The *Journal des Debats* says the election of General Boulanger in the Department of the Nord shows the country is wearied out and profoundly disgusted with the conduct and policy of the Government. The majority of electors, it says, can no longer endure a Government which does not govern, but leaves the country a prey to vacillations, discussions of politicians and the tyranny of Electoral Committees. The Opportunists attempted to hold a conference at Bordeaux last evening, but were disturbed by supporters of General Boulanger, and were compelled to suspend proceedings.

In view of the threats made during the past few days by alarmists over the revival of Boulanger sentiment, as a precautionary measure, troops will be kept in the barracks all day Thursday, and in addition to extra brigades of police an exceptionally large force will be detailed to guard the Chamber of Deputies.

BERLIN, April 18th.
The *Berlin Post* suggests that Floquet, De Freycinet and Goblet should warn General Boulanger that he is unnecessarily playing a dangerous game in aiming at the dictatorship. They should, it says, after declaring war, send him to conduct operations, telling him if he is victorious the sovereignty of France will fall to him, while, if defeated, he will avoid the further disgrace of being a usurper.

LONDON, April 18th.
The Paris correspondent of the *Times* is informed that startling revelations are about to be made regarding Boulanger's election expenses. The stories about Bennett and others giving Boulanger money the *Times* correspondent says are absurd.

The case of Mr. Peters against Mr. Bradlaugh for £500 damages for libel in stating that Lord Salisbury gave him (Peters) £25 to promote a meeting of workmen in Trafalgar square, came up to-day. Lord Salisbury testified that the money was given Peters to provide a free breakfast for the starving poor. A verdict was awarded to the plaintiff for £300.

Goldwin Smith has a communication in the *Times* making an assault on the American newspapers, which, he says, support Home Rule merely to please their subscribers. He says that he has drawn the conclusion in the editors write to please the minority and not the majority of their readers.

In the House of Commons this afternoon the Right Hon. Edward Henegau moved the passage of a bill to legalize marriage with a deceased wife's sister. The motion occasioned sharp debate, but was finally carried by a vote of 239 to 182.

Riots in Roumania are spreading. Soldiers have been sent to thirty villages to restore order. Robbery, murder and other outrages are being committed. The Government is powerless.

There are reports from Lugano, Switzerland, that renewed activity prevails among the Nihilists, who are organizing with the intention of presently beginning new operations.

At Newmarket Craven meeting to-day the Fitzwilliam Plate was won by Lord Randolph Churchill's brown colt, by Retreat out of White Lily.

It is again stated that the Duke of Marlborough will visit the United States this summer, where he is expected to marry a rich widow.

BERLIN, April 18th.
The Bundesrath to-day voted to expel from the country Bernstein, editor, Gohlsch, publisher, and two sub-editors of the *Social Democrat*.

VIENNA, April 18th.
It has been arranged that Emperor Francis Joseph will meet Queen Victoria at the inn at the Innsbruck railway station on Monday, and that they shall take luncheon together.

NEW YORK, April 18th.
A Rio de Janeiro letter says: The new Ministry have already made public through a semi-official organ that the principal and more immediate objects in their programme will be the abolition of slavery this year and measures for the improvement of the finances and currency of the country. The wholesale emancipatory movement, which was initiated last December in the province of San Paulo, has already produced the freedom of 70,000 of its 208,000 slaves.

Accounts have been received from the south-western frontier of the country in view of the peaceful disposition of Germany and Austria, is daily denied here. It is stated on the contrary by the most reliable authority that Russia has recommenced the movement of her forces with renewed energy, and the direction of her vigorous military measures is chiefly toward the Austrian frontier.

BUCHAREST, April 20th.
Further particulars about the revolt in Roumania show that many persons were killed and wounded in Kalasch and that twenty were

WASHINGTON, April 18th.
Perry Belmont to-day introduced a bill in the House which had been prepared in the State Department to carry out the provisions of the recently negotiated, and which is now before the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs. The bill provides that from and after the date of its passage it shall be unlawful for any Chinese person who is a subject of China or any other power to enter the United States except Chinese officials, teachers, students, merchants, or travelers for pleasure or curiosity, with the permission of their Government first obtained, and their identity and personal description fully established by certificates in triplicate, to be issued by the diplomatic or consular representatives of the United States, one to be given to the applicant, one to the Captain of the ship, with a letter of transmittal, and one sent under seal to the Collector of the Port which they propose to enter. Similar precautions are provided for Chinese entitled to enter the United States by land. Chinese diplomatic or consular officers and their attendants are to be admitted under special instructions of the Secretary of the Treasury. Masters of vessels are required to post lists of all the Chinese on board on their manifest and report them at the time of entry and before landing under penalty. All return certificates heretofore issued to Chinese laborers shall expire six months from the date of this Act. No Chinese laborer shall hereafter be permitted to return except he has a lawful wife or child or parent in the United States, or proper debts of \$1,000 or upward. His wife must have been acquired at least a year before his application for leave. The property must be shown to be bona fide. Promissory notes or other acknowledgments will not be accepted as proof of debts under this Act.

Application to leave and return must be made under oath, with penalties of perjury, a month in advance, with full description in proof of the family, property and debts, and full description of the applicant's person shall be taken, numbered, and retained by the collector, and a certificate correspondingly numbered shall be given to the applicant. The right to return under this certificate shall be limited to one year, and available only at the port from which he departed. Fine and imprisonment are imposed on masters of vessels landing Chinese in violation of the act, and a forfeiture of the vessel is provided for. Any Chinese found unlawfully in the United States shall be removed to the country from which he came at the cost of the United States, and the person who brought him here shall be held liable to the United States for the expense. The act of May 6, 1882, is repealed.

PARIS, April 18th.
The Chamber of Deputies gave a vote of confidence to the Government to-day. General Boulanger was cheered by an immense crowd assembled outside of the Parliament buildings on his arrival. The lobbies were thronged and much excitement prevailed. The Chamber adjourned until Saturday.

General Boulanger ignored the appeals of hundreds of friends to avoid publicity to-day. On entering the Chamber of Deputies a crowd of deputies craved forward to see him, and Boulanger, thinking they manifested sympathy for him, smiled. A storm instantly broke, the deputies crying, "A bas le dictateur! A bas, Boulanger!" Toward midnight there was an uproarious Boulangerist riot in the Place de Bourse. A strong body of police drove the crowd back and made several arrests.

BUCHAREST, April 18th.
Details of the raising of peasants which have reached this city describe the revolt as widespread. The peasants are destroying houses and property in most of the villages. The houses of the landowners and farmers have been sacked and wrecked, the granaries pillaged, and the local officials barbarously treated. A number of them have been killed. The territorial troops joined in the pillage and fired upon the troops of the line. Since instructions were sent to the troops to adopt severe measures for the suppression of the revolt a host of insurgents have been killed and wounded and taken prisoners. The prisons are crowded. Fugitives continue to pour into Bucharest.

ODessa, April 18th.
It is reported that the Czar's journey to the Caucasus is postponed in consequence of the outbreak of an extensive separatist movement headed by the nobility of Georgia. Numerous arrests are said to have been made at Tiflis, Stovropol and Kutais.

LONDON, April 19th.
The explanation of the banishment of certain monks and priests from the Alexander Nevsky Monastery at St. Petersburg is that the Czar dropped in unexpectedly and found them slightly intoxicated.

To-day at the Newmarket Craven Meeting the race for the Craven Stakes was won by Orbit.

The Canadian *Gazette* explains the action of the Dominion Government as respects the Atlantic mail service, and says it has now given its word that the new service shall be fully up to the standard of the requirements as to time arrangements with the Imperial Government. As regards Pacific mail service, the Government will now proceed, and it is expected will reach speedy completion.

Labouchere opened a subscription in the Commons to-night to pay the damages awarded to Peters in the libel suit against Bradlaugh. Within an hour £500 had been subscribed by over fifty members, that being the amount of the damages and costs.

An explosion occurred in the St. Helens colliery while working last evening. Seventeen persons were killed and several injured fatally.

BERLIN, April 19th.
The Bundesrath has expelled from the country Herr Schluter, an American citizen, who connected with the newspaper *Social Democrat*. An avalanche has destroyed fifty meters of railway between Gossensau and Schellberg on the Queen's route to Berlin.

DUBLIN, April 19th.
The sentence of the Rev. Father McFadden, who was condemned to three months' imprisonment for holding anti-landlord and anti-police meetings, on appeal was increased to six months.

NEW YORK, April 20th.
A correspondent of the *Sun* prints a terrible picture of the condition of things in Cuba. He says: Within the past month the following persons have been kidnapped while engaged in their daily labor: Jose Ruffe, Antonio Alejo, Angel Menendez, Jose Sierra, Felipe Garcia and a wealthy planter named Sadler. Calandera Adams, who was obliged to pay a ransom of \$12,000 in gold. This is only one month's record. Death—talks—grim—and unopposed through the once flourishing island. Handcuffed and outraged by her cruel masters, Cuba is fast sinking into a condition of utter lawlessness, despair and ruin.

LONDON, April 20th.
The report from St. Petersburg that the Russian Government is withdrawing troops from the western frontier of the country in view of the peaceful disposition of Germany and Austria, is daily denied here. It is stated on the contrary by the most reliable authority that Russia has recommenced the movement of her forces with renewed energy, and the direction of her vigorous military measures is chiefly toward the Austrian frontier.

BUCHAREST, April 20th.
Further particulars about the revolt in Roumania show that many persons were killed and wounded in Kalasch and that twenty were

killed and eighty wounded in Bodescht. In many places a movement of peasants to help themselves to maize, lands, and anything they could find.

NEW YORK, April 21st.
Dexter, the famous trotter, died this morning at the stable of Robert Hunter, in this city. He was 30 years old. He died of old age and exhaustion. Dexter was the greatest trotter of his day. He was the first horse to trot a mile in 2:17 and for a long period that remained the best time.

The *Mail and Express* Paris cable says: In consequence of General Laurent's article denouncing Boulanger as a disgraced soldier who had exchanged a distinguished position in the army for the leadership of a mass of mis-creants among whom he was a man, Boulanger was wearied by a challenge to meet him on the field of alleged honor, and seconds have been named to arrange a duel. There was a savage meeting of this sort yesterday, which resulted from a quarrel over Boulanger between the Comte de Kellman and M. Robert de Fourcnet. In the first passes the combatants Fourcnet had his left forearm pierced. Fourcnet's arm was carefully bound up and the fight was resumed. A very lively exchange of passes followed and the Comte de Kellman received a blow on the head, and therefore not proving immediately the wound man is still alive, but was in a dying condition at last reports.

It is stated from London that Jim Smith has accepted the challenge of Jackson, the Australian champion, for a prize fight for £1,000.

LONDON, April 21st.
At Jarrow to-day Wood defeated Rowe of Lynn, Mass., in a twenty-mile bicycle race, by one foot.

The French delegates to the Sugar Bounty Conference have presented demands for special immunity to France. It is improbable that the demands will be granted.

An address signed by 600 scientists and authors of Europe and America was to-day presented to Rev. Dr. James Martineau on the occasion of his eighty-third birthday.

WASHINGTON, April 22nd.
The bill prepared at the State Department and introduced in the House by Belmont to carry out the provisions of the new Chinese treaty which is now before the Senate, is not considered satisfactory by the Pacific coast delegation. Representative Morrow has therefore drafted a bill which is intended to give effect to the proposed treaty in case it is ratified by the Senate. A minority bill is offered for consideration only in the event that the new treaty is ratified. It will introduce it in the House to-morrow. It provides that Chinese laborers shall be absolutely prohibited from coming to this country. It allows ninety days after the law takes effect in which "minions who are entitled to come to this country under the existing law may return. After that period all Chinese laborers except those entitled to enter under the proposed treaty are absolutely excluded. Any master of a ship who brings a Chinaman guilty of this offense shall be subject to a fine. It also provides that any Chinese person not entitled to be in this country may be arrested and deported. The bill has been very carefully drawn and will effectually carry out its intent.

PARIS, April 22nd.
Premier Floquet was waited upon to-day by a deputation of students, who came to complain of the action of the police during the political disturbance here on Friday last. The Premier informed them that he would represent all disorders with a firm hand, and at the same time would see that the police did not exceed their duties. He subsequently visited the several police stations and assured the officers of the Government's support in the exercise of their duties. He reminded them that they owed fidelity to the Republic, and ought to be vigilant and firm in order to insure the security of the public and respect for the law.

LA CAUSE DISE says that the nomination of General Boulanger for the Chamber of Deputies in the Department of Isere is contrary to the wishes of the General and his committee.

A crowd of anti-Boulanger students set fire to several bales of newspapers of *La Lanterne* and *L'Univers* in a wagon in Boulevard St. Michel, and when maltreated the horse and driver. About 1,000 market porters volunteered to defend the printing presses of the journals, which the students threaten to attack. It is estimated that 10,000 persons were parading in the Latin quarter last evening in favor of Boulanger. They were mainly tradesmen and working people who gathered to defy the students, who are all opportunists. The police had hard work to keep the crowds moving.

Premier Floquet's tour of the police stations was due to the idea that the police were only awaiting a chance to declare for Boulanger.

DUBLIN, April 22nd.
A crowd of 500 persons rescued a prisoner at Abbeyfeale to-day and stoned the police. Fifteen officers were injured, four severely. The police were subsequently re-enforced and arrested five of their assailants.

BERLIN, April 22nd.
United States Minister Pendleton is rapidly recovering. Pendleton's physician advises him to abstain from work for a long time.

LONDON, April 22nd.
The latest betting on the 200-guinea race is as follows: 7 to 4 on Friar's Balsam, 5 to 1 against Ayshire, 10 to 1 against Orbit, 20 to 1 against Hazlethorn. For the Derby: 5 to 4 against Friar's Balsam, 11 to 2 against Ayshire, 10 to 1 against Orbit, 100 to 1 against Osory, 33 to 1 against Hazlethorn, 5 to 1 against Orbit, with a run, and even on Orbit running.

DEATH OF ROSCOE CONKLING.
A telegram in another column notifies the death, after a short illness, of Mr. Roscoe Conkling, one of the leading figures in the modern history of the United States. The *Alla California* of the 18th ult. has the following appreciative obituary of the departed statesman:—

The death of Roscoe Conkling will scarcely make a ripple in politics, though the country will wake up to learn with regret that it has lost one of its strongest individualities. If not a great man, Conkling possessed some qualities of greatness, and these qualities were of such a character as to throw his imperious personality prominently into the foreground of American politics. With all the commanding qualities of a natural leader of men, he had a heavy contempt for the commonality. He could neither brook opposition nor divide the honors of leadership. Although a selfish vanity dwarfed an otherwise noble nature and marred his imperious ambition, there was enough of the godlike fire of genius and dignity of courage and unswerving manhood in him to command the respect of his contemporaries and the hatred of meaner and more politic men. He never bowed his head under the sturdier stroke of a foe, but his greatest wither at the first severe wound dealt to his pride. Like Achilles, his vital spot lay in his heel and his enemy found it out. Men of different mould would have concealed the hurt, or called it a scratch, and faced the adversary with the smiling tactics of the diplomatist. But Conkling, rejecting all surgery and sympathy, lay in the public sight, with a curious mixture of heroism and moral weakness, let his hopes and his political future bleed to death amid the jeers of his enemies. It was pathetic, yet absurd.

and only abuse saved his memory from being laughed out of the public mind. The obloquy his enemies heaped upon him in his humiliation returned, however, to avenge if not restore the humbled chieftain.

Roscoe Conkling will not be remembered as the originator of any great measure, though his was the most commanding figure in the Republican ranks during the two terms that General Grant sat in the White House. His influence was second to none, with the President and his party, and he was the undisputed master spirit of the great Reconstruction Administration, composed of himself, Logan and Cameron. The most conspicuous leader of the dominant party during an era of the most unexampled corruption known in the history of American politics, his name was never associated with any questionable scheme or dishonorable method. He was a bitter partisan, but he was a fair, open antagonist, and no intriguer. He would override men's rights by arbitrary partisan legislation, but he would not cheat the ballot-box nor sanction a swindle on suffrage or the public purse. He gave no narrow partisanship a dignity that almost clothed it with greatness. No man in this country ever treated purely partisan questions from a more elevated standpoint than he, and while he did not deal in grand politics, he dealt with politics in a grand way. This gave him an influence on the hustings and in the forum second to that of no man of his day, and the Republican party never had a more effective speaker at critical periods. His voice alone saved President Garfield from defeat in 1880. It must be conceded that fate treated him a little hardly when the Administration he was so potential in elevating purposely wounded his pride and then rubbed salt into his hurts. That he spitted his bitterness at the Senate and was sent to Mexico to Mexico in 1882, and was sent to Minister to Mexico in 1882. After receiving an academic education, young Conkling studied law at Utica, in the office of Francis Kernan, who afterward defeated him for Congress, and was in turn beaten by his former pupil. In 1849 he was appointed District Attorney of Oneida county, though a few months short of his majority. He soon became prominent in local politics and at the bar. He married Julia Seymour, sister of ex-Governor Horatio Seymour and in 1858 was elected Mayor of Utica. In the same year he was elected to Congress, and was re-elected in 1860. Francis Kernan, afterward his colleague in the Senate, defeated him in 1862, but was in 1863 defeated by Mr. Conkling in 1864. He was elected again in 1866, but before taking his seat was elected United States Senator to succeed Ira Harris. During the last session of his term in the Lower House occurred the debate between himself and Mr. Blaine, which terminated in the latter making a bitter satirical personal attack on his antagonist, a proceeding which began the enmity that finally retired Conkling from public life and balked Blaine of the Presidency. In 1873 Mr. Conkling was again elected Senator, and in 1879 was re-elected for a third term. He was the prime mover in the scheme to nominate General Grant as a third term in 1880, and led the famous 200-delegation, which voted so long and so loudly for his chief. When Garfield, who was particularly distasteful to Conkling on account of his relations with Blaine, was nominated, Conkling returned home and took no part in the campaign. Seeing that Garfield was doomed to defeat without Conkling's aid, mutual friends brought about an understanding, which became celebrated as the Treaty of Mentor. Conkling took the stump and Garfield was elected. The nomination by the President of William H. Robertson to be Collector of the Port of New York, in contravention of the Mentor agreement, caused Conkling and his colleague, T. C. Platt, to resign on May 16th, 1883. The result is well known. They went back to the New York Legislature for a vindication by a re-election, but the power of the administration was too great and they were defeated after a four weeks' deadlock. Platt made peace with Blaine, but Conkling remained silent and implacable to the end of his life. In 1884, when his voice would probably have elected Blaine, no power could induce him to open his lips. He refused to stab his enemy in the dark, but he declined to aid him even to save the Republican party from defeat.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.
The Emperor is having electric lights fixed up in the Nan-hai-ze palace grounds at Peking. They will cost \$6,000.

On the 8th May a man appeared in Hangchow selling the first silk of the season, but only amounted to a couple of ounces and the market is not expected to open for some days.

On the 11th May the Viceroy of Fuhkien and Chekiang proceeded about five miles outside the west gate of Foochow city to meet the officer in charge of the new "chop," or Government stamp, bearing his additional title of Governor of Fuhkien. This is because, instead of having a Governor of Chekiang and a Governor of Fuhkien, the two provinces are now united under one Governor of Fuhkien and Chekiang.

A Chinese letter from Hankow says: Two new Russian tea-firms have started in Hankow, the "Pah Chang" and the "Teh Hwa" houses. The Chinese have all arrived. The weather has been so unseasonably cold and wet that the teas have deteriorated in quality, and an old hand says that this season's crop will fall short of the last by about 200,000 packages. The Ningchow tea, having been earlier picked, has not suffered damage from the climate. In Hunan the weather has been favorable, but in Hupoh very bad. About ten "chops" of tea have arrived at Hankow, and when the *Kiag-ping* comes in there will be many masters of Ningchows and Kiumus ready.

TIEN-TSIN.
Tientsin, May 12th, 1888.
His Excellency the Hak-kuan Tootai Chou-fu has been, by telegraph, received on the 9th instant from Peking, appointed Provincial Judge of Chai An Chai. The post is a very honorable one and will no more promotions will make him Futai of a province. Chou-fu will probably vacate his post of Tootai on his return from Port Arthur, so as to take up his new position without delay.

On Sunday the 6th instant, at 2:55 a.m., there was an earthquake of rather long duration here. The shock was a gentle but distinct vibration. There have been several slight shocks during the last few weeks, nearly all at night. —*Chinese Times*.

Today's Advertisements.

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE Steamship.

"PEKING."
Captain G. Heumenier, will be despatched for the above Port TO-MORROW, the 23rd inst., at 4 p.m., instead of as previously notified.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
SILVERMAN & Co.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1888. [518]

STEAM TO STRAITS, COLOMB AND BOMBAY, connecting at COLOMBO with the Company's Steamers "COROMANDEL" for LONDON, and INTERMEDIATE PORTS.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship.

"DECCAN."
will leave for the above places on SATURDAY, the 26th instant, at NOON.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1888. [520]

STEAM TO SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

(PASSING THROUGH THE INLAND SEA.)
THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship.

"BOKHARA."
will leave for the above places about the 29th May.
E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1888. [523]

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, PORT SAID, MARSEILLES, MALTA, GIBRALTAR, BRINDISI, AND LONDON; ALSO, MADRAS, CALCUTTA AND AUSTRALIA.

N.B.—CARGO CAN BE TAKEN ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR BATAVIA, TRIESTE, HAMBURG, NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship "VERONA," Captain M. de Horne, with Her Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for LONDON direct, via SUZUKI CANAL and usual Ports of call on SATURDAY, the 2nd June, at NOON.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M. Parcels and Specie (Gold) at the Office until 4 P.M., on the day of sailing.

For further particulars regarding FREIGHT and PASSAGE apply to the PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Office, Hongkong.

The Contents and Value of Packages are required to be declared prior to shipment.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bills of Lading.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.
P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong, 22nd May 1888.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM SHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE.
CONSIGNEES OF CARGO per Steamship "GAELIC."
The above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for Countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from along side.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

CHS. D. HARMAN, Agent.
Hongkong, 21st May, 1888. [522]

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION, No. 210.

THERE is a VACANCY in the SANITARY DEPARTMENT for an INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES. The Emoluments of the Office are—

Salary, \$60 A MONTH, rising by annual increments of \$48 to \$80, a month.
House rent, \$15 a month.
Chair allowance, \$12 a month in summer. Uniform.

For further particulars apply to the Sanitary Board Room, Government Offices. Applications with copies of Certificates to be sent to the COLONIAL SECRETARY before NOON, on THURSDAY, the 31st instant.

By Command, FREDERICK STEWART, Colonial Secretary.

NOTICE.
PUNJOM & SUNGHIE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Under-mentioned Fully Paid up Share Certificates were destroyed by Fire at Foochow on the 5th January, 1888.

Script 75/78, 40 Shares Hon. C. P. Chater, 1257/2706.
Jeronymo Moguel dos Remedios, 257/68.
25800 (25), 26281.
26295 (15), 28191.
28195 (5), 35129.
35133 (5).
Ruttineer Cursetjee Vania, 28971-29000.
Demio d'Availjo e Silva, 2556-2640.
Francis Henry Cave Thomas, 25655.
25675 (15), 19251.
19275 (15).
Alexander William Vans Gibb, 32265.
32274.

795 Shares.

And should the same not be produced before the 22nd June, 1888, Duplicate Certificates will be issued in name of the above parties, and no transaction taking place under the aforesaid Original Certificates will be recognized by this Company.

A. O'D. GOURDIN, Secretary.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1888. [521]

VICTORIA LODGE.

No. 1026.
A REGULAR MEETING of the above named Lodge will be held in FRIZZARD'S HALL, Zealand Street, on FRIDAY, the 25th instant, at 8.30 for 9 P.M. precisely.

Hongkong, 22nd May, 1888. [525]

Intimations.

FOR SALE.

AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

SECOND-HAND SHOES, HALL CLOAKS.

CHAMPAGNE, HOCKS, BURGUNDY, BRANDY, WHISKIES, ALL, SOUP, MACHINERY, COOKING STOVES, PAINTS, OILS, VARNISH, PIANOS, SINGERS' SEWING MACHINES, SODA WATER MACHINERY, Gas Engines, VELOCIPED HORSES, EMPIRE LUBRICATORS, ICE MAKING MACHINES, BICYCLE WHEELS for JINRICKSHAWS.

Apply to W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co., Bank Buildings.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1885. [11]

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NEW AND ACCELERATED DIRECT SERVICE TO LONDON VIA MARSEILLES FROM JAPAN AND CHINA.

ON the 19th May at NOON, and fortnightly thereafter, until further notice, the Company will maintain a DIRECT SERVICE between Hongkong and London via Marseilles.

This improved service will abolish all Transshipments, and it is intended that it shall maintain a high reputation for quick transit, careful delivery of Cargo, and for Passenger accommodation and cuisine.

The attention of Passengers is specially called to the greatly improved second-saloon accommodation and attendance.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.
Hongkong, 8th May, 1888. [528]

THE PUNJOM AND SUNGHIE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE SECOND ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, Pedder's Street, on THURSDAY, the 24th May, 1888, at 4 P.M., for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts to 30th September, 1887.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS will be CLOSED from 10th to 24th instant, both days inclusive.

A. O'D. GOURDIN, Secretary.
Hongkong, 10th May, 1888. [497]

NOTICE.

NOTIFICATIONS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

HAYZ JUST RECEIVED A FURTHER SUPPLY.

MONTERRAT LIME FRUIT JUICE,

CORDIALS,

JUBUBES, and

TABLETS.

MAWSON & SWAN'S

NEW PATENT WATER FILTERS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

HONGKONG, 8th May 1888.

BIRTH.

On 21st May, at St. John's Place, the wife of G. E. NOBLE, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, of a daughter.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1888.

TELEGRAMS.

(Renter.)

BRITISH DEFENCE.

LONDON, May 18th.

A committee has been formed by the Cabinet presided over by Lord Salisbury to inquire what steps are necessary to complete the state of defence.

THE HEALTH OF THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

His Majesty took a drive yesterday.

PAVILION INTERFERENCE IN IRELAND.

The leading Parnellite Catholics have declared that they could not admit the Vatican to interfere in politics.

(From Straits Times.)

BRITISH-NORTH-BORNEO.

LONDON, May 12th.

The British Government has signed an agreement assuming tutelage of British North Borneo.

GERMANY.

May 14th.

The Emperor is stronger, but the local disease progresses gradually.

THE SUGAR BOUNTIES.

The Conference has signed the final protocol.

BOULANGER.

General Boulanger is touring in the Nord, and is received everywhere with ovations.

(From the Courrier d'Haiphong.)

THE DIRECTOR OF FINE ARTS.

PARIS, May 12th.

The Director of Fine Arts is dead.

FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

May 13th.

The general budget of Indo-China has been suppressed by a decree.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The returns show that 100 deaths were registered in Hongkong for the week ended May 19th, of which number six were Europeans.

The Pacific Mail Co's steamship *City of New York*, with the American mails of the 1st inst., left Yokohama to-day for this port.

The Queen Regent of Spain has left Madrid for Barcelona, to be present at the inauguration of the Colonial Exhibition to be held at that city.

The returns of the number of visitors to the City Hall Museum for the week ending May 20th, are—Europeans 137, Chinese 1,592, total, 1,729.

The Wash Norton Variety Company arrived at Shanghai on the 19th inst. and gave their first performance at the Lyceum Theatre on the 17th.

We note that the French Administration of Tonquin will sell another batch of 55 Arab horses by public auction at Hanoi on the 24th June.

The Portuguese gunboat *Rio Lima*, Commander Santa Barbara, arrived to-day from Macao to take part in the celebration of Her Majesty's birthday.

A REGULAR meeting of Victoria Lodge, No. 1026, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Friday, the 25th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

The Chilean cruiser *Abtao*, 5 guns, 600 h.p., arrived here from Manila on Sunday afternoon. The *Abtao* steamed through the Lamma Channel along the southern side of the island, and entered the harbour by Sulphur Channel.We find the following thrilling paragraph in this morning's *Daily Press*—"Yesterday being Whit Monday was observed as a holiday by the Government departments, the Banks, and the Insurance Offices, but it was not observed as a general holiday." This literary effort, apart altogether from the startling character of the news intended to be conveyed, is a complete crusher. But as it so happens that a holiday was generally observed throughout the colony yesterday, it seems a pity so much talent was expended to so little purpose. One or two stores kept open, although for the amount of business transacted they might just as well have been closed—and the hard worked compositors and staffs of the *Daily Press* and *China Mail* were unnecessarily and needlessly at work; but in all the principal branches of commerce business was as completely suspended as it is on Sundays. The auction sale of Mr. Kuhn's splendid collection of Japanese works of art was the only indication in the Queen's Road that the entire colony had not gone out picnicking.GENERAL WYLER, the new Captain-General of the Philippines, is expected to arrive from Spain by the steamship *Reina Mercedes* about the beginning of next month.Messrs. Butterfield & Swire inform us that the Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Dallachophon*, from London, left Singapore for Hongkong this morning, and may be expected on the 28th inst.The steamship *Taiwo*, while proceeding down the Shanghai river on the morning of the 15th inst., collided with the Old Ningpo Wharf. She then ran into a boat, causing the death of the occupant, after which she proceeded on her voyage to Hankow.

The Acting Governor-General of the Philippine Islands, Señor D. Antonio Mollá, held an official reception at Manila on the 17th inst., the birthday anniversary of Alfonso XIII, at which all classes of public functionaries, the military, and the clergy, with the Archbishop at their head, were present.

At the meeting of the members of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held this afternoon to nominate a member for the Legislative Council in place of Mr. A. P. McEwen, who has gone home on leave, Mr. B. Layton, of Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co. and Mr. Jno. J. Francis, Q.C., were duly proposed and seconded. The ballot resulted in favor of Mr. Layton by 20 votes to 16. A condensed account of the proceedings will be found in another column.

MR. ANDREW JOHNSTON, Lloyd's Surveyor of Machinery, who went down by the *Cicero* on Saturday week to inspect the stranded steamer *Arday*, returned to the colony at an early hour this morning by the *Caribbrooke*, which specially called in at Cape Balangan to pick him up en route from Saigon. Mr. Johnston, on being interviewed this forenoon, briefly expressed himself as being perfectly satisfied with the prospects of floating the *Arday* without any great difficulty. We understand that the necessary appliances are being got ready in this colony with all possible despatch, and that active operations in getting the ship out of the "dock" of sand in which she is embedded will very shortly be vigorously commenced.The following Tonquin news is culled from the *Courrier d'Haiphong*—M. Oberg has organized a regular steam-launch service between Haiphong and Do-son. The *Olga* will run between these places on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays. Mr. Berger, Acting Resident-General, accompanied by Madame Berger, arrived at Haiphong on the 13th inst. by the gunboat *Pluvier* and left for Hanoi in the *Henri Rivière*. Admiral de la Jaille left Haiphong on the 13th for Hanoi, where he will stay a few days. General Borgnis Desbordes, of the Marine Artillery corps, arrived at Haiphong by the last French mail *Sailon*, on the 14th. The *Junickha* monopoly, which was put up for tender on the 13th inst., failed to find a purchaser, no offer covering the Government limit being made. The first Spring Race Meeting was held at Haiphong on the 17th inst., after a heavy downpour of rain which lasted for hours.

REPORTS from Taitam Tuk are the reverse of encouraging, and if all that is said be true, the Honorable the Surveyor General may not be quite ready with his greatly vaunted water supply by November next. We are informed that of the eight hundred coolies supposed to be employed at the undertaking, not more than one hundred are actually at work, a scare having set in which has completely demoralized the Chinese laborers. It is stated that 15 deaths have occurred within the short space of ten days, and the workmen are afraid to continue, being under the impression that the work they are employed on aggravates the fatal disorder, which is described by some as a kind of choleraic diarrhoea and by others as a numbness, at first affecting the limbs and ultimately the whole body. However, whatever may be the specific nature of the disease, fifteen deaths within ten days constitute a record sufficiently serious to call for searching inquiry and prompt remedies.

The price of the *Hongkong Daily Press* is \$2.50 per month; the usual cost of a complete cheap edition of novels of "The Legacy of Cain" type is from twenty to fifty cents. From Saturday the 12th to Saturday the 19th inst. this \$30 per annum newspaper (?) published no fewer than twenty columns of what it impudently describes as "Our serial tale." The daily reading matter in our contemporary averages about five columns—most of which is stale stuff that has already appeared in the other local papers—so that more than half of its literary contents last week consisted of "padding" from Wilkie Collins. Thirty dollars per annum seem a lot of money for this sort of *gabulism*, but we think the *Press* is taking dangerous liberties with its supporters. A well written morning paper would smash up *Granny's* prestige as an advertisement sheet in six months. There's a good time coming.ACCORDING to the *Shin-pao*, tea business in Ningchow and Keemen tea commenced at Hongkong on the 11th inst. The tea circular gives the following particulars—*Chingloong* and *Loongyeh* "chops," 156 half chests, at Tls. 38.25; *Luhai* and *Waiching* chops, 244 half chests, at Tls. 41; *Foucheng* and *Kuikling* chops, 476 half chests, at Tls. 44; *Loongtai* and *Waiching* chops, 208 half chests, at Tls. 40; *Waiching* chops, 556 half chests, at Tls. 45; *Keachung* and *Singah* chops, 188 half chests, at Tls. 38.50; *Lankhing* chop, 658 half chests, at Tls. 45. Business in Ho-kwang tea has also commenced, and prices are higher than last year, by two or three taels. The tea-inspectors say that the fragrance and flavor are better than former years, but the colour of the tea-leaf is rather black. The prices of Ningchow and Keemen teas are higher than last year by five to eight taels. Judging from the present state of the market, the tea-men will make some profit. In consequence of the over-abundance of rain, only a small quantity of the best tea is produced.The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Agamemnon*, from Liverpool, left Singapore yesterday afternoon for this port, and is due on the 27th inst.

MR. WODEHOUSE this morning fined the master of a passage boat \$25 for being found by the police at anchor in the central fairway of the harbour on the 21st inst. Police Constable Nevin said the craft was a large passenger junk of about three thousand piculs capacity, and was engaged taking in cargo. Defendant explained that he was the victim of the wind, through which he was found in the position indicated.

The *Rangoon Times* has been assured that here is every likelihood of the British Foreign Office opening negotiations with the French Government regarding Siam, where our French neighbours have been unusually active of late. It is said that the Colonial expansion school in France, regarding Siam as coming within the natural boundaries of French Indo-China. Anything in this direction would prove so detrimental to British interests that it is to be hoped the resources of diplomacy will be found adequate to preserve the independence of Siam.THERE will be a parade of the whole garrison of Hongkong on Thursday next, the 24th inst., at 5 p.m., to celebrate the birth of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. The Hongkong Volunteers, with six guns, will take part in the parade and will fire twenty-one, *La-seven* rounds before each *feu-de-joie*. His Excellency the Governor is expected to be present. The troops, after firing the *feu-de-joie*, will march past, in open column, in mass, and in line of quarter columns, after which they will be reformed into line and will advance in Review order.

At the Police Court this morning, James Cleishew, Inspector of Nuisances, charged a Chinese woman with carrying on a noxious trade at her house, No. 19, Yung Sing Lane, by steeping sugar bags in water and then boiling the water for the purpose of making sweetmeats, which had been declared by the Sanitary Commission as unfit for human food. The Inspector said this business had been complained of by lots of neighbours as creating an abominable stench in the neighbourhood. The extract, whatever it was, was sold to the keepers of sweetmeat and pastry shops. Mr. Wodehouse remanded the case till the 25th inst.

THE Chinese paper *Shin-pao* gives the following particulars re the opening of the tea market at Kiukiang:—On the 11th inst. Messrs R. Anderson & Co. purchased three "chops" Keemen teas, consisting of upwards of 100 half chests, at Tls. 40, Tls. 41, and Tls. 40.50. On the 10th inst. Messrs R. Anderson & Co., and Butterfield & Swire and Mr. A. Campbell purchased two "chops" of Keemen, consisting of upwards of 200 half chests, at Tls. 39 and Tls. 37. On the 11th there were over 200 chests of Keemen, for which the foreign buyers offered Tls. 34, but the tea-men would not sell at that price, and shipped it to Hankow by the steamship *Shanghai*. There being very few tea-men this year, only small quantities of tea are placed on the market at Kiukiang, and only from 100 to 200 chests of tea arrive there daily.THE *Morning Sniveller*, otherwise the *Daily Press*, thus feebly paraphrases the Acting Chief Justice's opinions on the advisability of flogging Chinese illicit emigration agents—"No doubt the infliction of flogging would soon put an end to the offence, and if there are many more cases similar to the one in question, it will be the duty of the legislature to arm the Supreme Court with power to include flogging in the punishment for it." We incline very strongly to the opinion that our contemporary's idea that it is the duty of the Legislature to further degrade and brutalize our criminal code, without some far more striking necessity than at present exists in connection with abuses of the Emigration Act, will meet with scanty approval here and hearty condemnation elsewhere. Can the writer in the *Daily Press* put out any more offences, either here or elsewhere, that have been put an end to by the infliction of such a barbarous and brutal punishment as physical torture? When he has satisfactorily demonstrated that flogging has proved a deterrent to crime, excepting in the imaginations of a few judges who ought to know better, it will then be time enough to deal with the question on the higher ground of public morality.

TSANG TSZ HING, a shopkeeper, at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. H. E. Wodehouse, charged a young man of 18, a rattle splitter, with threatening to kill him on the 13th inst., and with attacking him with a billet of wood. This case has been remanded from time to time since the 12th inst., and springs out of a strike amongst the rattle splitters for an increase of wages. Mr. Dennis appeared for the prosecution. Complainant said he was on Praya West on the day of the assault, superintending the loading of bamboo into a boat bound to Wanchai, when defendant rushed at him without any warning and struck him on the back. Complainant at once called out for the police, when prisoner ran away, but was soon arrested. He was one of a gang of rattle splitters who were on strike, for the purpose of obtaining three extra cents a load for splitting bamboo and carrying them to the boat. Formerly the goods had to be carried to the boat for nothing, but the masters, of whom the complainant was one, had agreed to give the three cents on condition that there should be a fixed price for certain specified work. The men refused to agree to this, they stopped work on that account about March 20th last and had never resumed it. Fresh men had been got from Canton, but they did not stay long and had all returned home. Subsequently another gang were got from Canton, and they were the same as the first. Complainant said that there were five or six splitters in Wanchai belonging to the same gang, each shop employing about fifteen or twenty men, and after being properly split the bamboo was sold to chair makers. The splitting was done at a year's practice before reaching perfection, and the wages had been the same for many years. In making the above conditions the employers of labour were attempting to bind the men down so that at no future time could they make any further demands. The men refused to agree to such stipulations and the consequence was this strike. The hearing of the case was further remanded until May 29th at 10 a.m.

JOHN BUTLER-MADDEN, second clerk in the Chinese Protectorate, Singapore, has been committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court of that colony for receiving illegal "gratifications" as a public servant. We could preach a very effective sermon, with a local application, on this text; but the gains are hardly worth the candle—at least, not just at present.

THE Hongkong Rifle Association's third weekly "Spoon" competition took place at the Kowloon range yesterday afternoon, having been postponed on Saturday on account of unfavorable weather. There was again a large field of competitors, no fewer than twenty-two experts with the rifle "having a try" for the trophy. On making up the score sheet it was found that Police Constable Watson had proved victorious with a score of 31, which was tied by Mr. E. L. Woodin, but as the latter was penalized 3 points for a former success he was, of course, out of the running. The winner was hard pressed by three other members of the force, Constable Waverley, and Sergts. Fowler and Mann, and by Sergt. Fowler, of the military, this quartette tying at 30 each. Mr. John Andrew, who is shooting pretty straight at present, Dr. Thompson, whose Japanese experiences have apparently had little effect on his eyesight, and the veteran "Steelback" marksman, Major Ellis, showed very prominently with 29, and the "tail" gave a very fair all round exhibition of shooting. We think we are fully justified in believing that these friendly competitions have thoroughly answered the purposes for which they were originally instituted, and that the inevitable result must be, not only a vast improvement in the shooting power of our local marksmen, but a strengthening of the *esprit de corps*, which, as Major General Cameron has frequently stated, is so requisite in every British colony.THIS morning, before Mr. Wodehouse, Police Sergeant Thomas Duncan charged Lam Afuk with offering him a bribe to shut his eyes to public gambling which might at any time come under his notice while performing his duties as a police officer. Complainant said on the 30th ultimo he was walking along Queen's Road West when he met the defendant, and knowing him to have been at one time an old *keung* in the force he asked him what "pidgin" he had now. Defendant said he could not inform witness just then, but would call at his house and let him know all about it. That evening defendant called at Duncan's house, and after telling him very carefully, said there was a good thing to be made out of the gambling houses in Queen's Road, and that he was in a position to offer as much as \$2 a night to anybody who would keep his eyes shut in regard to certain houses. Witness was lying down reading the newspaper at the time and not taking much notice, but after defendant had finished his story he advised him to have nothing to do with that "pidgin," but rather adopt an honest way of earning a living. After some further talk defendant plaintiff, another visit, and said that he could offer him \$2 a night on such a time as Queen's Road, and in the course of the time he saw some amount from another house—he paid every five nights in sums of \$10 from each house. Defendant went on to say that all the Chinese detectives were engaged in this way of increasing their incomes and that it was a very substantial way too as their pay amounted to "nothing." Defendant then took out \$38 from his pouch and placed them in the hands of witness as a first instalment of the bribe. Witness remarked that defendant said "Yes, and you will always be paid in such dollars as that there will never be any trouble about it." On this witness told defendant that he should take him into custody on the charge of offering a bribe. The accused, in answer to the Magistrate, said a woman gave him the money in order to secure the possession of some papers, and the money was offered to the witness as a present according to Chinese custom. His Worship remanded the case till Monday the 28th inst.WHIT-MONDAY in the Malta and Gibraltar of the Far East, although a Bank holiday, is anything but an approach to the splendid turn-out which is yearly witnessed at home. Picnic parties are all we can resort to here in the way of an extra amusement or a break of the dull routine of daily life, but the expense which these luxuries entail renders them simply prohibitory to the majority of residents. A goodly number of holiday makers left for Macao by Saturday's steamer, and several stragglers followed suit in a steam-launch on Sunday morning. Whatever may be said of the beauties of steam-launch travelling, we should always prefer a trip to the Holy City and back in the *Kiukiang*, or even in a Chinese junk, to the pitch-and-toss business generally experienced in a motor and sail-less steam-launch. Such at least is the opinion of one of our representatives, who, hearing that some strictures on the Holy City which have occasionally appeared in this paper had excited the ire of the Lusitanian hidalgos residing there, and that his blood was badly wanted by them, availed himself of the opportunity afforded by the holiday to join the party in the steam launch and visit the great Eastern emporium of Portugal. The whole trip lasted exactly five hours, during the greater part of which the only position tenable was the horizontal, as the south-west wind brought on a continual rolling, causing of setting the most staunch mariner prouling on his toes. Tiffin was, moreover, devoured in a *vari facili* manner when wanted, and by 4.15 the tiny craft with its few drowsy occupants landed in Macao. Hinkley's Hotel was soon reached, and after a few libations with friends and acquaintances whom a desire for change, or the attractions of *Fan-fan* had allured to the Holy City, a drive out to the Barrier and a lounge at the Gardens, where the Police Band was discoursing sweet music, were the next part of the programme. Macao belles now and then greeted the old Grande with their presence, and reminded old residents of the lively scene which that fine promenade formerly presented, during the golden slave-trade epoch. The local world-beatons dressed in the height of (Macao) fashion, and carrying their heads in their own peculiar anti-Chinese style, were to be seen everywhere, enjoying the evening breeze. Our representative succeeded in getting himself introduced to some of these decayed aristocrats, and explained in "pidgin" Portuguese his earnest desire of absconding some blood for the redemption of the illustrious town. But, either because the report as to his head being valued at a certain price in the Holy City was not exactly true, or because the holy citizens had tired themselves out in the agreeable pastime of killing harmless newspapermen, the *Telegraph* man was left to his own devices; and after a substantial Chow-chow at Hinkley's, he and some of his associates, commenced their return trip to Hongkong, leaving Macao at 4.45, and reaching the Victoria Wharf at 7.30.THE "Glen" liner *Glenorchy* left Singapore for this port on Sunday morning.SAYS the *Straits Times* of the 14th inst.:—After this day, St. John's Island will no longer be a branch of the Criminal Prison. A number of the short-sentenced prisoners, whose time was nearly up, have been discharged by orders of Government. The remainder are to be sent to the Malacca jail, where there is plenty of accommodation.We observe that our morning contemporary still continues the "New and Original Novel" advertisement on its easily gullied readers. This pious fraud, transparent to the initiated from the beginning, should have been promptly suppressed after the disclosures which appeared in our columns. The term "pious fraud," which we have applied in cold blood to the *Daily Press* may possibly be libellous; and if the ruling powers of that wretched apology for a public newspaper are aggrieved thereat, we are ready and willing to justify it when and where they please.

A NEW MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

NOMINATION THIS AFTERNOON.

A fairly representative meeting of the members of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce was held in the City Hall this afternoon for the purpose of nominating a candidate to represent the Chamber in the Legislative Council, in place of Mr. A. P. McEwen. The Chairman, the Hon. P. Ryrie, presided.

The Secretary (Mr. H. U. Jeffries) having read the notice convening the meeting, and the communication from H. E. the Governor desiring the Chamber to nominate a successor to Mr. McEwen on his having been granted a year's leave—

The Hon. J. Bell-Irving proposed that Mr. B. Layton be adopted as the nominee of the Chamber. ("Heard hear?") He was known to them all, and was the representative of one of the oldest and most important firms in China. He had had over sixteen years' experience in the East as a merchant, and was therefore eminently qualified to occupy the position which Mr. McEwen was temporarily vacating.

The Chairman proposed the nomination of Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. He was a gentleman with very long experience in this Colony, and had gained a large legal practice here, having held the important offices of magistrate and puisne judge. He must, during that time, have obtained a very thorough—in fact he might say a perfect—knowledge of the Colony and its requirements. Moreover, he knew what were not its requirements. The unofficial members of the Council (he spoke for himself) thought he might also speak for others—had always felt that a legal man was needed amongst them, to advise them on legal points. The Legislative Council had committed not a few blunders during the past few years, he regretted to say; Ordinances had been "chucked" at their heads—"first readings" had been hurried over and Bills not printed, and necessary information had been withheld, until the day before they were to be read a second time, which had necessitated the going straight into Committee on them. It was on such occasions that the unofficial members felt the necessity for the assistance of a legal, unofficial colleague, and it was with that necessity fresh in his recollection that he brought Mr. Francis's name before them. His nomination would be a boon to the unofficial members, and would strengthen their hands in any difficulty that might arise between them and the official members. It would also be a boon to the official members themselves, in preventing them from committing additional blunders. Of late years—though he might say that he did not particularly refer to the present *Legislator*—the law had gone by—not very long ago, they had passed, been compelled to pass, by the official vote, certain Ordinances, many of which were ineffective and some unwarranted. He thought that if they elected Mr. Francis that would not occur again. Mr. Bell-Irving had referred to Mr. Francis's experience in China. He cordially agreed with all that was said, but urged that Mr. Francis had a longer knowledge of Hongkong, and was better acquainted with the inhabitants, from his connection with individuals of every nationality. In conclusion Mr. Ryrie referred to Mr. Francis's energetic action with regard to local matters, the drafting of memorials, &c.

Mr. E. Mackintosh seconded. He agreed that much could be said in favour of a purely commercial man, but contended that in Mr. Francis they had a man who had been intimately associated with the colony for such a number of years that he had acquired great legal and commercial experience, he might almost say second to none. He (the speaker) had looked forward to considerable change in the existing laws of the Colony, in which the might mention the Opium Ordinance, in which there was, shortly, to be a re-negotiation. They had seen the ability Mr. Francis had shown in such cases, both from a legal and a commercial point of view, in putting the matter clearly before the Committee. He felt sure that it was owing to that that their burdens were lightened. Mr. Mackintosh argued, in conclusion, that in whatever respects Mr. Francis might need instruction it would be easy for the Chamber to impart it. Mr. Francis begged to add a few words on his own behalf—principally to correct a misapprehension which he had been told existed in the minds of some members. He was told that he would be regarded, if nominated, as a sort of free lance in the Council, ready to tilt against any opinions of the Chamber. He assured them that he would not hesitate to pledge himself on any matter which came before the Council originating in, or affecting, the Chamber, or supported by it, to consider himself the advocate of the Chamber so long as he was its nominee. But in matters in which the Chamber was not officially interested, he would certainly consider himself free to do as he thought best to forward the interests of the community. He added that if he were nominated, and turned out, as was possible, a failure, the fault would quickly correct itself, as the election would then take place in a year. The vote was then taken by ballot. As the members left in a body for the purpose of voting, Mr. Francis objected, suggesting that they ought to go singly.

The Chairman directed that this should be done. On the declaration of the ballot, the two seconds having been appointed, scrutineers were named, and the members proceeded to vote singly. Mr. Layton, in returning thanks, said that he knew it was a singular honour to be able and popular a man as Mr. McEwen, but he intended to do his best to forward the interests of the Chamber, and hoped he would have the kind co-operation of the official colleagues. After briefly referring to his own experiences in China in passing, he concluded by thanking the members for the honour which they had done him. The meeting then dispersed.

NEWS BY THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The O. & O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Gullie*, Capt. W. G. Peague, with the American mail of the 22nd inst., arrived in port yesterday morning. We take the subjoined items from our San Francisco exchanges:—CRACOW, April 10th. The *Azov* war fleet will be re-equipped by twelve torpedo-boats. They have been ordered in France, and will cost £30,000. The Government is retaining merchant vessels in readiness to transport troops to Bulgaria at a cost of £12,000.

MONTREAL, April 14th. The Protestant Ministerial Association and Evangelical Alliance have called a joint meeting for Monday next to protest against the action of the proposed statute to the Virgin Mary on Mount Royal. The feeling is very bitter over the question, and there is every indication that Montreal is to have another religious quarrel between the two nationalities. A monster petition is being prepared asking the Council to veto the project and a counter-petition is in preparation by the Catholics.

NEW YORK, April 14th. Harriet Beecher Stowe is failing. Her memory grows daily more treacherous. There are intervals, not unfrequent, during which she forgets the names of friends, loses track of her own business concerns, and cannot speak accurately of events of the past. In some of these forgetful intervals she has denied all acquaintance with people whom she is known to delight to honor. Her condition is such unlike what Emerson's biographer, The author of the biography of Mrs. Stowe will be written by Horne Thayer. Mrs. Stowe's residence is in Hartford.

BERLIN, April 14th. The bricklayers and masons in the city of Mayence are on a strike. Rioting occurred in consequence of the efforts of the strikers to compel men who are engaged in other building trades to join them. The police have dispersed the rioters.

LONDON, April 14th. The Norwegian bark *Norma* Captain Thorsen, from Savannah, March 24th, at Rotterdam, was sunk in the Channel last evening by collision with the steamer *Brenna*. The latter is badly damaged.

The first of three bicycle races to be contested by William A. Rowe of America and Richard Howell of England, for the championship of the world and \$1,000, took place to-day at Leicester. The distance was five miles. Howell won by five minutes in 15 min. 39.5 sec.

Timbuctoo is the objective point at present of all enterprising explorers. Lieutenant Aaron of the French navy has just succeeded in reaching it. It is his journey up the Niger, and Joseph Thompson has just across Morocco and the Atlas range for the same delightful African metropolis.

The body of Sigislo Roth, a member of the London Stock Exchange, was cremated yesterday, and he is said to be the first Jew that has been cremated in England. The occurrence has occasioned controversy, in which the authority of the Scriptures was considered by a council of the United Synagogue in London. No decision was announced, but a recognition of the rite is practically made by consent of the Rabbis to conduct the funeral services.

The French Government has received a dispatch from the Moroccan special Madrid correspondent to the effect that the Morocco conference would not be held, at least not at present. *Le Matin* of Paris contains the following editorial on Bayard's back-down, and Lewis bungling:—"So prompt a retreat after noisy threats, so patiently endured by the Sultan, gives rise to the supposition that the United States, having carefully considered the consequences of action against Morocco, have declined to face the expense it would have entailed. It is to be regretted that this species of retreat is all to the benefit of a semi-barbarous State that is always ready to make the best use against foreigners of the slightest signs of weakness on the part of great Powers. It would have been better all around if the great American republic had made less fuss about its grievances and had insisted, with greater firmness on their redress. The local authorities, emboldened by this partial success, will in future show themselves still more arrogant toward any Europeans who may have to do with them."Speaking of Lewis and Bayard, *Le Matin* says:—"In acting as he did in the recent dispute we only following the usual bad traditions of the system, for which he is in no way responsible, and the present difficulty need not be regretted if it helps put a stop to the infamous system of plunder and injustice to which the Moorish people have been subjected, with the connivance of so-called Christian governments. Great disappointment is felt in all quarters at the success of the protection Powers in practically rendering abortive the scheme of the Madrid Conference, which had been held, could not have failed to substitute some other more civilized system for the protection of foreigners."April 16th. The British ship *Biela* from Antwerp had her bows stove in and was afterwards seriously damaged in a collision off Deal in a fog with the steamer *Vena* from Bilbao for Rotterdam. The *Vena* sank and sixteen of the persons on board lost their lives.Later advices state that the steamer *Biela* was in a collision with the *Vena* and was seriously damaged. The *Vena* sank and sixteen of the persons on board lost their lives.

Advices from China state that Li Hung Chang, the Chinese Premier, on behalf of his Government, has peremptorily demanded that the King of Corea explain why the Korean Minister to the United States presented letters of credence to President Cleveland without the intervention of the Chinese Minister, which act Li Hung Chang claims was a breach of the explicit condition upon which China permitted Corea to send envoys abroad.

The *Telegraph* Vienna correspondent says the rumors that the Emperor of Brazil will abdicate are denied. The Emperor will soon return to Brazil.

General strikes of working men are being arranged for in Berlin, Altona, Carlsruhe and other places in Germany.

PARIS, April 16th. M. Legendre, a wealthy copper, who it was charged, sought his re-election as a member of the Chamber of Deputies, from Mr. Wilson, has been expelled from the order.

The Opportunist journals admit that the Opportunist party suffered a severe defeat in yesterday's election in the Department of the Nord.

The *Republique Française* says: "There is madness in the air. We must not despair, however, but must stubbornly fight the battle."The *Journal des Debats* says: "Efforts to concentrate the Republicans have failed. The Moderates will no longer vote with the Radicals. The *Paris Journal* says: "It is for the Government to attach a proper meaning to the demonstration in favor of universal suffrage just made."

